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Reports from the Classical Field

It is the purpose of this department to keep the readers of the *Journal* informed of events and undertakings in the classical field, and to make them familiar with the varying conditions under which classical work is being done, and with the aims and experience of those who are in one way or another endeavoring to increase its effectiveness. The success of the department will naturally depend to a great extent on the co-operation of the individual readers themselves. Every one interested in the *Journal* and in what it is trying to do is therefore cordially invited to report anything of interest that may come to his notice. Inquiries and suggestions will also be useful in directing the attention of the editors to things which may otherwise escape their notice. Communications should be addressed to J. J. Schlicher, 1811 N. Eighth Street, Terre Haute Ind.

Celebration of Dr. Collar's Anniversary at the Roxbury Latin School.—

Of the many teachers in all parts of the country who know Dr. William C. Collar either personally or through his textbooks, few, probably, realize that he finished in June fifty years of continuous service (forty years as head-master) in the Roxbury Latin School. During these years his fine scholarship, never-failing enthusiasm, and high ideals of manhood have been an inspiration to hundreds of boys. Under his wise leadership the Roxbury Latin School has risen from a comparatively humble position to one of the best-known schools in the country.

The graduates of the school tendered Dr. Collar a reception on the day before Commencement, and Professor George L. Kittredge of Harvard, president of the Alumni Association, presented him with a large loving-cup. The closing exercises were made notable by addresses by Dr. Edward Everett Hale and President Eliot of Harvard, who expressed in marked terms their appreciation of Dr. Collar and the work which he has done. After the customary diplomas had been awarded to the graduating class, Dr. James De Normandie, in the name of the trustees of the school, presented to the retiring head-master a beautifully illuminated parchment bearing the following words:

GUILLIELMO COE COLLAR
A CURATORIBUS
SCHOLAE LATINAE ROXBURIENSIS
SALUTEM.

Tibi quinquaginta per annos scholae veteris nostrae praeceptor laborioso et rectori laudatissimo hoc amoris gratiarumque pignus tribuendum curavimus.

Quae olim nascens et parva schola illustris vocabatur, illustriorem nuper reddidisti. Magnus adolescentium numerus ex hoc seminario in Universitatem pervicinam adire solitus, te ministrante, maior confluit.

Octo per lustra lectis pueris hinc in varia collegia egressis, nos et opus tuum et quo animo perfectum est comprobamus. Tibi magnas gratias agimus quod gregem

puerorum et turbam ad desideria erudiens bonarum literarum et omnis veritatis exquirendae exemplar semper praeuisti quam bona studia in bonos mores abire debeant.

Te rectorem insignem, eruditissimum; oratorem de pueris erudiendis facundum, gravem; virum iustum, integerrimum; hoc in anno procul negotiis, vacuum oneribus, studia tranquilliora incepturum, consalutamus.

Nos esse fortunatos praecipue opinamur quod inter nos mansurus, discipulis praeceptoribusque beneficio perenni, et sapientiae tuae thesauros ac fontes largiter sparsurus, RECTOR EMERITUS vocaberis.

Amicitiam nostram quinquaginta per annos stabilem et infractam, necnon scholae nostrae fructus et honores tuis auctos ingeniis, recordamur. Tecum maxime gaudeamus quod tibi sponte tua caestus artemque reponenti alumnus tuus, quondam non ingratus, reverentissime ac fideliter tantam molem suscipiet.

Positis oneribus, ut anni et honores super te cumulentur! Utinam invenias studia amoena, horas iucundiores, senectutem sanam et utilem, amicorum catervas, domi felicitatem, foris laudem et rerum humanarum contemplationes divinarumque beatas! —C. W. G.

A Latin School Paper.—A Latin school publication, *Latine*, has recently been launched by the students of the Oak Park (Ill.) High School. It is to be published monthly, and consists of five pages of Latin editorials, news, jokes, poems, and advertisements, bound in a simple, but artistic cover. The tone is playful and humorous throughout, and the contents reflect the daily life and interests of the pupils so faithfully that it is quite possible that a desire to read the paper will result in some access of strenuous digging among the brethren of the back seat.

We are indebted to Miss Frances E. Sabin, instructor of Latin, for a copy of the first number and a description of the undertaking, from which we take the following. On the first page is the dedication "Dis Manibus Caesaris Ciceronis Vergili," and the well-known eulogy of literature from the *Pro Archia*. The initial editorial reflects the spirit in which the whole is carried out:

Latinum bonum et facile scribere conabimur ne vobis dolorem capitis det. Si inusitatis verbis utemur et constructionibus quae ab illis in Hale-Buck dissentiunt, culpa non nostra erit, sed temporum. In ea re libertatem aut mortem habeamus! Petimus a vobis ut in eo incepto nobis non aures sed ingenia accommodetis. Quo modo? Attendite! Ponite in cistam in tabulario (cella principalis) quodcumque novi audivistis. Erimus semper auribus arrectis, sed paucis hominibus omnia videre et audire a Fatis conceditur. Pecuniam dare non possumus sed—quod melius est—orabimus ut di vobis gratiam ac meremini referant. Valet, amici. Pax vobiscum.

This is followed by a description of the members of the faculty and five stanzas, somewhat mediaeval in their scansion, which lament the departure of several of their number.

O mores! O tempora! mihi dolenti
Numquam laetitia aut risus iam est!
Nemo et nihil in orbe terrarum,
Nihil iucundum videri potest.

The subject of the following stanza is Miss Abbott, who went to Turkey as a missionary:

Utinam iterum possem videre
Vultum rotundum amatae Abbatis!
O cur paganos trans maria petis?
Nonne paganici nos sumus satis?

Then follows a parody of the opening lines of Caesar, *Schola nostra est omnis divisa in partes tres*, etc. Then the virtues of the favorite janitor are sung in eight brief stanzas "Ad Jacobum:"

Vir potentissime,	Sapientissimus
O clamantissime,	Et fidelissimus,
Sonans plenissime,	Memorandissimus
Tu terres me!	Janitor rex!

An imaginary soliloquy by the daughter of Ariovistus before her marriage with Dumnorix, school notes, and jokes come next. The pupils are exhorted to go to the football game and *clamoribus vestris iuvate*, instead of going to Chicago to see the *Catulos, Tigrides et Soxes*.

Among the advertisements, a shoe store and a coal dealer are immortalized as follows:

Carlson tabernam in Via Lacu habet. Hic calceos optimos pretio minimo vendit! Pedes tui magni an parvi? Nihil refert. Carlson calceos ad pedes quoslibet aptare potest. Iurat autem per deos immortales eos te non usturos esse.

Delos Hull carbonem vendit. Hiems adpropinquat. Uxorem liberosque frigidos esse vis? Minime, dicis. Ergo, i subito et carbonem eme.

The concluding sentence announces that *discipuli Latini Roosevelt et Fairbanks consuliibus haec ad lucem proferunt*.

A Recent Greek Play in England.—In accordance with a custom of long standing, the students of Bradford College, Berks, England, presented the *Antigone* of Sophocles in June. The same play was given in 1898, the other two plays performed by this college being the *Agamemnon* (last given in 1900) and the *Alcestis* (1904). The college has an open-air Greek theater, and five performances were given this year, at intervals of two or three days.

Plautus in English.—A performance of the *Menaechmi*, similar to those which have been given for a number of years at Beloit College, Beloit, Wis. (noticed in the *Classical Journal* for November, 1906), was given on May 9, by the Plautus class of Drake University, at Des Moines. As at Beloit, the students translated the play into English blank verse, and produced it in this form at the university auditorium. The performance was given under the direction of Professors Denny and Brown, and was a decided success.

The Classical Weekly.—The Classical Association of the Middle States and Maryland, which held its first meeting at Columbia University in May and which starts with a membership of 170, has taken over the *Latin Leaflet*, and the latter now becomes the organ of the Association under the new name given above. The

Leaflet has been published for the last seven years as a four-page weekly, but under the new arrangement its size has been doubled. The annual subscription price for persons who are not members of the Association of the Middle States and Maryland will be one dollar. Professor Gonzalez Lodge of Columbia University is the new editor-in-chief, and he is assisted by an editorial board of six. Twenty-five numbers of the *Weekly* will appear the first year (1907-8).

Ancient Coins for Purposes of Illustration.—Original materials for the illustration of Greek and Roman life are unfortunately quite limited, and it is not possible for every individual or school to secure many of them. But it is strange that more schools do not avail themselves of such opportunities as do exist for securing a few lamps, vases, or coins, or at least some fragments of pottery or marble. A good many small things of this kind are in existence and for sale at reasonable prices. Our attention is called to the matter by a catalogue of some 800 Greek and Roman coins which Dr. G. N. Olcott (438 W. 111th St., New York) has for sale. About half of the pieces are offered at prices ranging from twenty to sixty cents, while the others are higher.

Classical Meeting in New Hampshire.—A meeting of classical teachers of the state was held on October 18 at Concord, as a section of the State Teachers' Association. While this meeting has the same aims as the general Classical Association of New England, attendance at it was not confined to those who belong to the latter organization. The programme consisted of the following papers: "Cicero as an Orator and Man of Letters" (Professors Lord and Moore, of Dartmouth College); "Aims, Possibilities and Difficulties in Reading at Sight" (Mr. Swett, of Franklin); "The Linguistic Training of the Classical Teacher" (Professor Husband, of Dartmouth College); "Reports on the Classical Association of New England, and on the Organization of New Hampshire Teachers" (Professor Kirtland of Phillips Exeter Academy and Mr. Libby of Manchester).

Classical Conference of Southern California.—The meeting this year was held at the Los Angeles High School, May 11, with the following programme: "The Disciplinary Value of Translation" (Mr. Goodnow); "The Teaching of Greek and Latin in the Schools of Ireland" (Miss McPeak); "A Trip through Central Italy" (Miss Trotter); "The Teaching of the Classics through English Translation" (Miss Woodbury); "Cicero's First Public Oration—A Translation of his *Pro Roscio Amerino*" (Mr. Williams).

Exercises like the one last given, which are a special feature of the programmes of the Conference, deserve consideration elsewhere on account of their possibilities for helpful discussion, and the comparison and elevation of standards in translation which will result.

The Cornell Expedition to Asia Minor and the Assyro-Babylonian Orient.—This expedition was organized by Professor Sterrett, of the department of Greek, and is supported by a fund of \$10,000 contributed by a number of persons who are interested in the undertaking. The members of the expedition are Drs. Olmstead

and Harris and Messrs. Charles and Wrench, all graduates of recent years, who have had special training as graduate students in this country, and in the American Schools of Archaeology at Athens and Jerusalem. They sailed from New York, March 7, and will be gone about eighteen months. In this time, starting from Ancyra, they will visit many of the ancient centers of trade and civilization in Asia Minor and the near East, taking photographs, making measurements, and copying inscriptions. They will make a special effort to determine the exact location of the sites and their exact distance and direction from each other, and will study the natural features of the country with a view to their bearing on ancient lines of communication and trade and on the changes of empire.

Friedrich Blass.—The death of Friedrich Blass at Halle on the fifth of March has called out an appreciative sketch of his life by Professor Mahaffy in the *Athenaeum* of March 16, and another by Professor Seymour in the July number of *Classical Philology*.

As we read the long list of contributions that Blass has made to classical scholarship, amounting, as Professor Seymour tells us, to more than a volume a year in the forty-four years of his professional life, we are equally impressed with the breadth of his attainments and the marvelous productivity of his career. The *Attische Beredsamkeit* will remain the great monument of his career; in its successive volumes and revisions it embodies the results of more than thirty years of constant study of the orators. But Blass's revised edition of Part I of Kühner's *Greek Grammar*, his *Hermeneutics* and *Greek Paleography* in Müller's *Handbuch*, and his *Grammar of New Testament Greek* will long be indispensable tools of the Greek student. A part of Blass's work in his later years in the emendation of Greek texts will be subject to more immediate revision by other scholars; his extreme trust in quotations as a source of textual evidence, and his application of his constantly changing theories of prose rhythm to textual criticism, have not commended themselves to scholars generally. Yet the great body of his textual work will be of permanent value.

Blass was a prodigious worker; he was at his desk before light on the winter mornings, and hard at work till late in the afternoon. An illustration of his rigorous demands upon himself is seen in the fact that at one time when he was especially engaged in work on the *De corona* of Demosthenes he committed the entire speech to memory. But with all the pressure of his work he kept his evenings apart, devoted to his friends and his family. He was a life-long lover in a singularly happy home; as simple and genuine as a child in his affections, without ostentation or conceit, he was at his best in the more personal relationships. No personal service to student or friend was too great for his large sympathy. Plain, almost uncouth, in outward appearance, he was yet a perfect gentleman. Professor Mahaffy says truthfully of him, "To his modesty and simplicity he added personal piety In this, too, he was not like other men, but was worthy to stand with those great men of old whose learning was all the nobler because their life was purer, and who combined the love of knowledge with the fear of God."—C. D. A.